

Supplement to
Proposal for the Study of
Intergroup Relations in Newark
With Special Reference to Housing Problems

Prepared for
The Mayor's Commission on Group Relations
of the City of Newark

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Introduction

This Supplement has been prepared in accordance with the October 9, 1957 Memorandum of the Director, Mayor's Commission on Group Relations, Newark, New Jersey.

The purpose of the Study has been redefined so as to limit the research to the two areas:

1. A Study of changing neighborhoods
2. A Study of population characteristics
as they relate to changing neighborhoods and the city as a whole

Another modification of the original plan is the specification that six neighborhoods are to be studied instead of the original four discussed in our first proposal.

In order to achieve the goal of this Study as embodied in the above statement of purpose and as elaborated in the above cited memorandum, we would plan to investigate the following areas:

1. The present demographic composition of the population.

This would deal with the ethnic, racial, socio-economic, educational, occupational, and other characteristics of the population.

2. The population shifts within the past five to ten years and potential future trends.

In this area we would investigate length of residence and the plans of residents to stay in their present homes or to move and their reasons for remaining or moving.

3. Employment status, occupational opportunities, and vocational training.

4. The factors contributing to neighborhood stability or instability, among which we may find such items as:
 - a. Present housing conditions, housing needs, and available housing facilities.
 - b. School facilities.
 - c. Recreational facilities and community resources.

Another general area of investigation is that which we covered in our original proposal and is the one we called "attitudinal".

In this attitudinal area we will take another look at housing and neighborhoods but this time in terms of:

1. What people think of housing that is available to various ethnic and racial groups
2. What they think needs to be done to maintain and improve their neighborhoods
3. What people think are the major causes of friction between ethnic and racial groups and what suggestions they have for their elimination
4. The types of people who live in the different neighborhoods

To round out this area on inter-group community relations we would also have to determine the attitudes between members of various groups in neighborhoods where they have been living together. In each of these neighborhoods we would try to find out what people think is the effect minority groups have on a neighborhood when they move in -- in terms of the effect on the condition

of the neighborhood and in terms of the effect on real estate values in that neighborhood.

The Sample

In general, the methods for selecting the sample would be those outlined in the original proposal -- a probability sample of households in the selected areas.

Because we feel that it will take larger samples for reliable reporting of population characteristics and shifts than for attitudes, we would recommend the following sampling procedures. In each of the six selected areas we would conduct interviews with 350 persons to determine the characteristics of the population in each of these areas. With one-half of these respondents we would continue the interview to cover the attitude areas. Thus, for the six areas combined, we will have a total of 2,100 questionnaires covering population characteristics and we would have 1,050 questionnaires covering attitudes as well as population characteristics.

The Questionnaire

The procedures we would follow to construct the questionnaire have been outlined in the original proposal. One additional word should be said about the questionnaire, especially that part of the questionnaire devoted to population characteristics. In so far as possible, this part of the questionnaire will be made comparable to questions asked by the United States Bureau of

Census. The comparability of the questions will make possible comparison between the findings of this Study and Census data. There is a second purpose in mind here. If the Commission finds it desirable and economically feasible, it may be possible to have the Census report the population characteristics for the sample blocks or even the sample households as of the 1950 Census. This would then permit a direct measure of change from 1950 to the present in the characteristics of the population in the same blocks or even in the same dwelling units. (This is simply a suggestion and is not included as part of the Study outlined here).

Costs

As the Study has now been outlined, we estimate the cost to be \$29,900.